

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** No, Mr. Speaker, I do not intend making a statement on motions on this matter.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister say whether he is prepared to leave off the Tom Sawyer philosophy and take one of the coats of paint off all the—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT**

SALE OF SIX-CENT POSTAL CARDS—ALLEGATION OF MINIMUM QUANTITY CONDITION

**Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Postmaster General. Can the minister say when the new postal regulations went into effect which prevent postal patrons from purchasing six-cent postal cards in less than 100-lot quantities?

**Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General and Minister of Communications):** There are no such regulations, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I feel the question should be placed on the order paper.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** With all due respect, Mr. Speaker, I think this question is of some urgency. I have evidence of certain patrons visiting post offices and being asked to buy postal cards in lots of not less than 100. Perhaps I may have Your Honour's indulgence to ask the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. In view of the fact that the question period has terminated, perhaps the Postmaster General might want to reply to the question on government time.

**Mr. Kierans:** Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member will send me his evidence I will certainly look into it.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS****NATIONAL HOUSING ACT, 1954**

AMENDMENTS CLARIFYING DEFINITIONS AND DEALING WITH THE INTEREST RATE ON INSURED LOANS, AND OTHER MATTERS

The house resumed from Friday, May 30, consideration of the motion of Mr. Trudeau [Mr. Lundrigan.]

that Bill C-192, to amend the National Housing Act, be read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, when you called it four o'clock last Friday, I was saying that the government was not serious in the least and had no intention whatever of truly helping Canadians in the low income bracket to become home owners or even to acquire one day adequate housing which they can afford.

In my opinion, Bill C-192 is not designed to help the Canadian people. The only trust it is meant to help is, I believe, the profiteering trust which, for the last three years, has increased the interest rate on mortgage loans.

The cost of building materials has never been as high as it is today, lots have never been so dear, the interest rate has never been so prohibitive, the direct and indirect tax on building materials has never been so heavy. School and civic taxes on lots and houses have never been so high.

And how does Bill C-192 propose to correct the situation? To extend the reimbursement period for the loans, in some cases up to 40 years! Mr. Speaker, that is to care not at all about the Canadian people, especially about those in need of houses or dwellings. If the government does not try to reduce the interest rate and the price of land so that housing construction might be possible, if it does not reduce the price of building materials, if it does not assist municipalities with their residential development, if it does not abolish the tax on building materials, I submit, Mr. Speaker, that Bill C-192 is nothing but a monstrous "fake" and mere window-dressing to fool those who are not at all conversant with finance. In fact, for those who know something about finance, it is a monumental farce.

If the Canadian people were aware of these facts and of the double play indulged in by politicians who spout high sounding words like "the just society" but who are, in fact the slaves of high finance, I say that in no time at all they would send home those politicians who are unable to give them the results they want.

We members of the Ralliement créditiste intend to continue to expose the injustices of our present society and the submission of people to the whims of high finance.

[*English*]

**Mr. Charles Turner (London East):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity